

# David Laban

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An experienced and adaptable engineer, with a passion for reliability and simplicity.

## Highlights/Timeline:

- Notable Open Source work:
  - [cargo-quickinstall](#) – pre-compiled rust binary installer.
  - [mijia-homie](#) – bluetooth-thermometer to mqtt/influxdb gateway.
  - [hoverkite](#) – embedded rust project, to fly a kite using a gamepad.
- 2019-Present: Red Badger
  - Projects:
    - [PagoFX](#) – International payments platform, for Santander.
      - Overhauled payments ledger, to meet regulatory approval.
    - [FutureNHS](#) – Collaboration platform.
      - Evaluated existing open source platforms, and gave recommendations.
      - Developed Rust and Typescript microservices, with GitOps deployment.
      - Mentored other engineers on GraphQL, Rust, Kubernetes and Terraform.
      - Learned lessons around simplicity, stakeholder management and product focus.
    - NHS Wales – Covid self-isolation payment application flow.
      - Stripped requirements back to a bare minimum, and deployed on a tight timeline.
    - [Future State Architecture](#) – PoC multi-cloud application platform, for a bank.
      - Demonstrated seamless multi-cloud failover of application logic between two cloud providers.
      - Worked closely with the wasmCloud core team, to improve the developer experience of their product and tooling.
  - Attended Red Badger Design School, and increased my exposure to design thinking.
  - Mentored and line managed other engineers.
- 2015-2019: Conversocial
  - Maintained Call Centre SaaS platform, in Django + MySQL + MongoDB + React.
  - Integrated with Facebook APIs for real-time messaging.
  - Rewrote the core app frontend (previously knockout) in React + Redux + CSSModules.
  - Brought the platform (previously delete-nothing) into GDPR compliance.
  - Moved our local development environment from Vagrant to Docker For Mac.
- 2014-2015: Break.
  - Volunteering with Children's Society and Epping Forest.
  - Personal software projects.
  - Travelling (Korea, USA, Canada, Netherlands).

- 2012-2014: Truphone Ltd.
  - Maintained existing VoIP infrastructure, and debugged live problems.
  - Migrated server configurations to use Puppet for automated deployment.
  - Wrote components using C, Python, Erlang, PHP and MySQL.
- 2011-2012: Break.
  - Software development and professional development
  - Outward Bound:
    - Demonstrated strong observational skills in both people and process, by identifying the strengths and weaknesses within the group and helping people to grow and develop while contributing safely to the team.
  - Lindy Hop, Balboa, Authentic Jazz dance training and teaching
- 2009-2011: Software Engineer at Collabora Ltd.
  - Received formal and informal GStreamer training from gst core developers.
  - Maintained XMPP interop testing service (over 2000 subscribed users).
  - Developed Highly Scalable XMPP-SIP VoIP gateway.
  - Adapted to wide range of tools (C, Python, SQL, C++, lua, git, bazaar, autotools etc.)
  - Designed Protocol Independent VoIP APIs for Telepathy (Maemo; Gnome).
  - Coordinated with Open Source developers and clients on 5 (of 7) continents.
  - Improved coordination within Cambridge with weekly stand-up meetings.
  - Moved to Montreal for 3 months, to work more closely with our VoIP experts, while keeping my existing responsibilities.
- 2005-2009: Engineering Undergraduate, Peterhouse College, Cambridge University:
  - 4th year: MEng (Hons) Information (Primarily Signal Processing and Communications)
  - 3rd year BA (Hons) Engineering: 2:2
  - 1st and 2nd years (General Engineering): 2:1
  - 2007: Second Year Computing Prize (Cryptography):
  - 2006: First Year Structural Design Prize (Bridge Design and Manufacture)
- 2003-2005: Bancroft's School:
  - Maths: **A**, Further Maths: **A**, Physics: **A**, Electronics: **A**, AEA Physics: **Merit**.
- 1995-2003: Highams Park School:
  - 11 GCSEs including 6 at **A\***

## Ongoing Engagements/Interests:

- Kites
  - Started flying again when lockdown prevented dancing.
  - Got my housemate involved in an [embedded rust project to fly a kite](#).
- Lindy Hop (Swing Dancing):
  - Taught small and large classes (from 1 to 50 students at a time).
  - Performed to large crowds at events like St John's May Ball and Strawberry Fair.
  - DJed at dance events: Gained a practical understanding of sound and rhythm.

References available on request.